



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

In re: PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE
Bradford C. Webb

Serial No. Serial No: 08/870,199

Filed: June 5, 1997

Examiner: Z. Fay

Group Art Unit: 1614

For: SYNTHETIC VISCOELASTIC MATERIAL FOR OPHTHALMIC APPLICATIONS

FEB 10 2000

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENTAssistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

The following amendments and remarks are responsive to the Office Action on the above-referenced application dated August 3, 1999. A three month extension of the period for responding to the outstanding Office Action mailed August 3, 1999, has been requested in the accompanying PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a) AND TRANSMITTAL OF FEE UNDER 37 CFR 1.17(a). In the event that Petition should become detached from this Response or otherwise become lost or misplaced, the Commissioner is requested to charge the fee for a three month extension to Deposit Account No. 01-0682.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 13 to read as follows:

13. (Twice amended) A process for preparing a viscoelastic solution of hydroxypropylmethylcellulose in a physiological salt solution, the composition having a zero shear viscosity in excess of 15,000 cps and being free of harmful particulate material and gels, ^[greater than 54 micrometer diameter] and being pyrogen free and non-toxic when a therapeutically effective amount of said solution is injected into a human eye, the process comprising the steps of: